

Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station.

CIRCULAR.

THE INSECT PEST LAW.

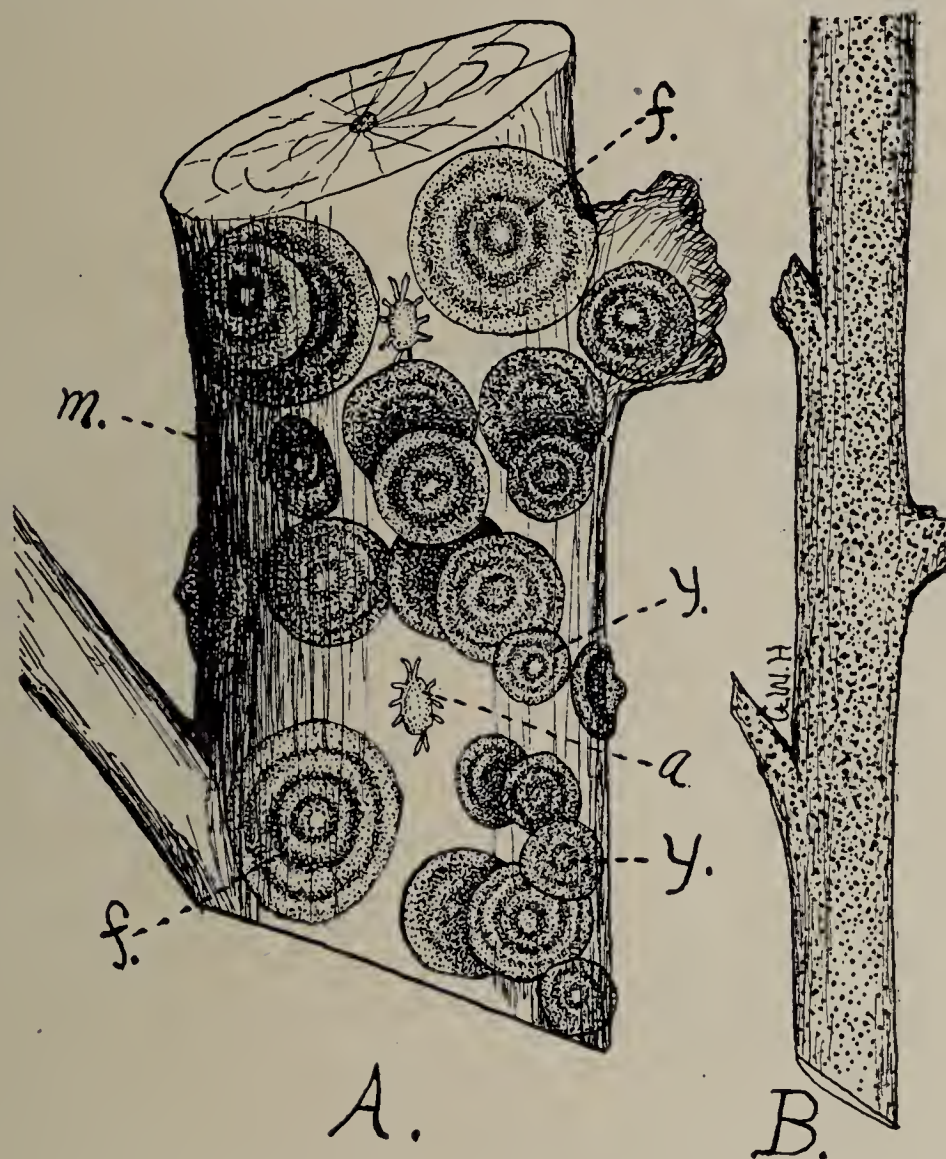


FIG. 1.—A, scales on branch; f, female scale; m, male scale; y, young scales; a, young, unprotected scale insect—all greatly enlarged. B, branch showing scales as they appear to the unaided eye. (Original.)

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, MISSISSIPPI.

JUNE, 1908.

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THE INSECT PEST LAW.

THE NEW INSPECTION LAW.

The rapidly growing fruit raising and trucking interests of the State are being accompanied by new and increasingly complex problems. One of the more important of the present day problems confronting the fruit grower and trucker is the danger of obtaining injurious insect pests and diseases on the young trees and plants that he buys from nurserymen; nor are the nurserymen to be held entirely responsible for diseased stock. In many cases it seems almost impossible to keep stock free from diseases because the latter are so widely distributed and so insidious in their attacks. Moreover, it is very often the case that an insect or a disease does not manifest itself on a young tree, having just begun its attack, and consequently it is impossible to know that a tree or plant is affected until it becomes considerably older. Again it is practically impossible to examine minutely every plant or tree that leaves a nursery and it is certainly not a very difficult thing for a diseased specimen to be included unconsciously among healthy ones. There must be examinations and careful ones, at both ends of the line—at the nursery and at the farm. Moreover, in order to make an intelligent examination, a fruit grower or trucker must be familiar with the pests and diseases that are dangerous.

The following insects and parasitic diseases are very liable to be obtained on nursery stock and are considered dangerous. If any one of them is suspected to be present on the stock purchased, such trees or plants should either be destroyed or treated as indicated in bulletin 90 of this station.

San José scale insect (*Aspidiotus perniciosus* Com.)

The new peach scale (*Aulacaspis pentagona* Targ.)

The woolly aphis of apple (*Schizoneura lanigera* Hausmann.)

The strawberry root louse (*Aphis forbesi* Weed.)

The Mexican cotton boll weevil (*Anthonomus grandis* Boh.)

Black knot of plum (*Plowrightia morbosa*, Schw.)

Crown gall (*Dendrophagus globosus* Toumey.)

Rosette of peach and plum.

The purpose of the new inspection law, of course, is to protect the farmer and fruit grower from getting any of these pests; but as

I have explained above, there are many loop holes through which pests can get in, no matter how carefully we may try to keep them out. It, therefore behooves every man to keep his eyes open and do all he can for himself.

In accordance with the new law, we shall inspect the nurseries in the State of Mississippi and find out whether each one is free from pests or not. If a nursery is clean and the plants are free from injurious insects and infectious diseases we shall give the owners a certificate which will read as follows: "This is to certify that the nursery of.....at.....Miss., was inspected on Sept., 1908, and the stock and premises thereof found apparently free from San José scale and other seriously injurious insects and infectious diseases."

Moreover, a copy of this certificate will be attached to every bundle, bale, or package of trees or plants and to every separate tree, vine, shrub, or plant sold by a nurseryman in this State. Therefore, every person buying plants from any nursery in the State should look for the certificate. If it is not present the plants should be refused and notification should be made to me at once regarding the noncompliance with the law.

Moreover, every nursery without the State must also have a similar certificate attached to all plants sold to any citizen of Mississippi. Hence, hereafter, no one should accept any nursery plants from any nurseryman or agent that are not accompanied by a certificate to the effect that such plants are free from injurious insects and infectious diseases.

There is another phase of the law to which attention should be called and that is the one touched upon in section 7, which says that whenever an orchard of peach, plum, apple, etc., infested with injurious insects or infectious diseases is found in dangerous proximity to other orchards it shall be the duty of the owner thereof to take such steps for the eradication of the trouble as the entomologist may recommend.

It often happens that one man who is much interested in the orchard business, sprays his trees and looks after them carefully and keeps them in good condition, while his neighbor, just over the fence, neglects his trees and allows them to become infested with a dangerous disease or insect. Such an infested orchard is certainly a menace

to the healthy, clean one. It does not seem fair that the effort, time, and money of the one man should be lost through the neglect and carelessness of his neighbor. It is touching the same principle that is dealt with when a case of small pox or scarlet fever is quarantined and kept from infecting healthy persons. Infested orchards allowed to exist indefinitely as a public menace or nuisance will be looked after and every effort made to aid the owners in cleaning them up. Occasionally it may be best to cut all of the trees down and burn them up. In other cases, they may be sprayed and the disease controlled. In all cases we shall all work together for the greatest good to the greatest number.

Attention is also called to the regulations concerning the introduction and spread of the Mexican cotton boll weevil.

THE FRUIT PEST MEASURE.

For Protection Against San Jose Scale and Other Injurious Fruit Pests.

Senate Bill No. 263.

AN ACT to protect Horticulture, Fruit Growing and Truck Gardening and to exclude crop pests of all kinds in the State of Mississippi.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That the Entomologist of the Mississippi Experiment Station is empowered and it shall be his duty to promulgate such rules and regulations governing the examination, certification, sale, transportation and introduction of trees, vines, shrubs, or plants, that he may deem necessary to prevent the further introduction, increase and dissemination of insect pests and plant diseases.

SEC. 2. That it shall be unlawful to sell, or open for sale, trees, shrubs, or plants, commonly known as nursery stock, known to be infested with dangerous or injurious insects or diseases; and any person or persons violating the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall be fined in a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, or imprisoned in the county jail for a period not exceeding thirty days.

SEC. 3. Each and every person, firm or corporation growing nursery stock for sale in this state shall apply to the Entomologist for inspection of such nursery stock, and it shall be the duty of the Entomol-

ogist or his assistant, to inspect such stock on or before November 1, of each year. If upon such inspection, the nursery and premises be found apparently free from injurious insects and plant diseases, a certificate shall be given to that effect and a fac simile copy of it shall be attached to each and every box, bundle or package of nursery stock shipped within the state. Shipments of nursery stock not so labeled shall be refused for shipment by all common carriers and their agents and such shipment shall be liable to confiscation if found by the Entomologist.

SEC. 4. That every person, firm or corporation from any other state wishing to ship nursery stock into Mississippi shall file a copy of his, her, or its certificate of inspection furnished by the Entomologist, or inspector or duly authorized official in which he, they or it resides, with the Entomologist of Mississippi, who shall state that in addition to inspection the nursery stock has been fumigated under the directions of the official issuing the certificate. Upon failure to comply with this requirement any of said articles that may be shipped into this state shall be confiscated or destroyed by the authority of said Entomologist.

SEC. 5. Every firm, corporation or agent selling trees, vines, shrubs, or plants, commonly known as nursery plants, shall have a copy of the certificate described in section 4, attached in a conspicuous place to every bundle, bale or package of such plants sold or delivered in this State.

SEC. 6. Transportation companies and their agents shall immediately notify the Entomologist when, by oversight or otherwise any shipment of nursery stock without proper certificate attached shall arrive at any station or wharf in this State and it shall be the duty of the Entomologist or his assistant to investigate and dispose of such shipment.

SEC. 7. Whenever an orchard of peach, plum, apple, or other fruit trees infested with San José scale, Peach yellows, black knot, little peach, or other injurious insects or infectious disease is found in dangerous proximity to other orchards it shall be the duty of the owner of such infested trees to take such steps for the eradication of the insects and diseases as the Entomologist may recommend in accord with the approved methods of combatting such insects and diseases.

SEC. 8. The Entomologist shall have power and authority to make and enforce such rules and regulations, and to do and perform such acts, as in his judgment may be necessary to control, eradicate, and prevent the introduction, spread or dissemination of the Mexican cotton boll weevil in the State.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of the Entomologist of the Mississippi Agriculture Experiment Station to make a full and complete and itemized biennial report of all the doings and expenditures under the provisions of this act, to the Legislature of this State published in pamphlet form.

SEC. 10. That this act take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1908.

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE TRANSPORTATION OF COTTON SEED IN MISSISSIPPI.

The following rules and regulations regarding the introduction and spread of the Mexican cotton boll weevil are put in force according to section 8 of the State Inspection law.

1. That no individual in the State of Mississippi shall send any living boll weevils, eggs, larvae, or pupae, through the mails or transport them by any other means from one locality to another in the State.

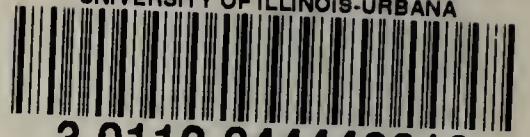
2. That no individual in uninfested districts shall import, for the purpose of planting, or feeding to stock, any cotton seed from infested districts of Texas, Louisiana, or Mississippi and no transportation company shall accept such seed for transportation.

3. That no individual in the infested districts of Mississippi shall export any cotton seed to be used for planting or for feeding to stock into the uninfested portions of this State.

4. The counties of Adams, Wilkinson, Amite, Jefferson and Franklin are hereby declared infested districts.

GLENN W. HERRICK, ENTOMOLOGIST.

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